

Atty. Docket No. 060126.00223

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Cancelled)

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
DEC 20 2006

19. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for moving powder comprising:
- a housing defining a chamber with a first powder inlet piercing said chamber and a first powder outlet piercing said chamber and a first inlet opening piercing said chamber and spaced from said first powder inlet and said first powder outlet;
 - a piston moveable in said chamber and having an outer diameter; and
 - a valve positioned adjacent said first inlet opening and moveable between an open position and closed position to selectively open and close said first inlet opening.
20. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein said chamber includes a first portion defining a first inner diameter and a second portion defining a second inner diameter wherein the first inner diameter is greater than said second inner diameter and said second inner diameter substantially corresponds to said outer diameter of said piston and an air passageway is defined between said outer diameter of said piston and said first inner diameter of said first portion.
21. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said first powder inlet and said first powder outlet and said first inlet opening are defined by said first portion of said chamber.
22. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 21 including a first drive unit operably associated with said piston to move said piston between said first and second portions of said chamber.
23. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 22 including a controller controlling said first drive unit and said valve.
24. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 19 including a reservoir of compressed air in fluid communication with said valve wherein an air stream is moveable from said reservoir to said first portion of said cylinder when said valve is in said open position.

25. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 24 including a throttle device disposed in between said reservoir and said valve wherein said throttle device being operable to adjust a pressure of said air stream.

26. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein said valve is moveable to a plurality of positions between said open and closed positions.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for moving powder comprising the steps of:
~~defining providing a chamber with a housing~~ defining a chamber with wherein a
first powder inlet piercing said chamber for supplying the powder into said chamber and a first
powder outlet piercing said chamber for evacuating the powder from said chamber and a first
inlet opening piercing said chamber for providing a fluid into said chamber and spaced from said
first powder inlet and said first powder outlet;

moving a piston inside said chamber thereby forming a vacuum inside said
chamber for drawing the powder into said chamber through said first powder inlet, with said
piston defining a gap with having an outer diameter in said chamber; and

positioning a valve adjacent said first inlet opening wherein said valve being is
moveable between an open position and closed position to selectively open and close said first
inlet opening thereby selectively introducing fluid into said fluid passage to control the amount
of the powder delivered to said first powder outlet.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 including selectively directing a[[n
air]] stream of fluid defined by air to the first inlet opening.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the selectively directing
step is further defined as opening the valve to pass the air stream through the first inlet opening
during the moving step.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the selectively directing step is further defined as opening the valve to pass the air stream through the first inlet opening during the moving step when the piston is moving away from the first powder inlet.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the selectively directing step is further defined as opening the valve to pass the air stream through the first inlet opening during the moving step when the piston is moving toward the first powder inlet.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 including controlling a rate of the air stream with a throttle device positioned upstream of the valve.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 including the steps of:
defining a second chamber with the housing wherein a second powder inlet piercing said second chamber and a second powder outlet piercing said second chamber and a second inlet opening piercing said second chamber and spaced from said second powder inlet and said second powder outlet;
moving a second piston having an outer diameter in said second chamber; and
positioning a second valve adjacent said second inlet opening wherein said second valve being movable between an open position and closed position to selectively open and close said second inlet opening.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 including moving the piston and the second piston in opposite directions with respect to one another.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 including the steps of:
drawing powder into one of the first and second chambers; and
ejecting powder from the other of the first and second chambers during the
drawing step.

36. (Previously Presented) The method claim 33 including concurrently closing the
first powder inlet and the second powder outlet.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 including arranging the first and
second chambers in parallel with respect to one another.

38. (New) A method for moving coating to at least one atomizer, said method
comprising the steps of:

providing a pair of housings with each housing presenting a chamber, a powder
inlet defined in each of the housings for supplying the coating into the chamber and a powder
outlet defined in each of the housings for evacuating the powder from the chamber and a fluid
inlet exposed to the chamber and spaced from the powder inlet and the powder outlet;

positioning a first piston relative one of the chambers and a second piston relative
the other chamber with the first piston and the second piston movable in alternating fashion
relative to one another thereby selectively forming a vacuum inside the chambers to receive the
coating therein through the powder inlets; and

connecting a valve device to each of the fluid inlets of each housings to
selectively introduce fluid between the first piston and one of the housings and the second piston
and the other housing thereby controlling the amount of the coating delivered to the coating
outlets of the chambers as the valve device alternates between an open position and closed
position to selectively open and close the fluid inlet of each chambers.

39. (New) A method as set forth in claim 38 wherein the step of connecting a valve device to each of the fluid inlets of each housings is further defined by connecting a first valve to the fluid inlet of one of the housings and a second valve to the fluid inlet of another housing.

40. (New) A method as set forth in claim 38 including the step alternatively opening the first and second valves to inject fluid between the first piston and one of the housings and the second piston and the other housing as the first piston and the second piston move toward the powder inlets of the chambers.

41. (New) A method as set forth in claim 38 including the step of controlling a rate of fluid stream with a throttle device positioned upstream of each of the first and second valves.